

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 FREETO 00390 021133Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 SCS-03 MCT-01
DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05
SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01
OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 CU-02 PC-01 TRSE-00 /103 W
-----021203Z 019974 /23-12

O P 021100Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4764

USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 0390

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SL, PORS

SUBJECT: GOSL DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY

LONDON FOR SEITZ

REFS: FREETOWN 374 (NOTAL); FREETOWN 364 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. AS RESULT OF INCREASING TENSION AND LAW-
LESSNESS ON NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 1 GOSL DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY,
ESTABLISHED CURFEW, AND CLOSED ALL SCHOOLS
AT LEAST FOR REMAINDER OF WEEK. END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. AS TENSION EXPANDED THROUGHOUT
FREETOWN AFTERNOON AND EVENING OF FEBRUARY 1, WITH STUDENTS
STOPPING TRAFFIC ALONG MAJOR ROADS IN EAST END OF
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TOWN, PRESIDENT STEVENS MADE RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT DECLARING
STATE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY. KEY ASPECTS OF EMERGENCY
INCLUDE CURFEW FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 6: A.M. AND AUTHORITY
FOR POLICE AND ARMY TO MAKE ON THE SPOT ARRESTS AMONG THOSE WHO
ARE PERCEIVED AS VIOLATING PEACE. SUBSEQUENT
ANNOUNCEMENT BY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION CLOSED ALL
SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY FOR THE REST OF THE

WEEK. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. IN SPITE OF CURFEW, TENSION CONTINUED THROUGHOUT NIGHT FEBRUARY 1 WITH SPORADIC LOOTING REPORTED. SECURITY FORCES HAD TO RESORT OCCASIONALLY TO SHOOTING, SOMETIMES WILDLY, TO DISPERSE DEMONSTRATORS. SEVERAL DEATHS ARE CONFIRMED, REPORTEDLY AS RESULT OF ACTIONS OF SECURITY FORCES.

4. FREETOWN OUTWARDLY CALM MORNING FEBRUARY 2.

5. STATUS PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF IN SIERRA LEONE SATISFACTORY. IN FREETOWN, THREE PCVS POSTED TO FOURAH BAY COLLEGE HAVE RETURNED TO CAMPUS AND REPORT NO DIFFICULTIES. ELSEWHERE IN CITY, PCVS WHOSE WORK SITES AND/OR RESIDENCES LOCATED IN SENSITIVE SECTIONS ARE REMAINING AWAY FROM WORK AND/OR STAYING TEMPORARILY WITH AMERICAN STAFF. UP COUNTRY, PCVS BEING INSTRUCTED NOT TO COME TO FREETOWN, TO REMAIN IN THEIR VILLAGES AND CONTINUE THEIR WORK ASSIGNMENTS AS PER USUAL, TO OFFER NO COMMENTS OR ASK ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION AND TO AWAIT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

6. FOR USUN. UNDP RES REP HAS ASKED US TO HAVE YOU PASS GIST OF ABOVE MESSAGE TO HIS HEADQUARTERS.

7. FOR DEPARTMENT. PLEASE ASSURE THAT THIS AND REFTELS PASSED TO RELEVANT OFFICIALS AT USIA, AID , AND PEACE CORPS. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

7. EMBASSY WILL CLOSE ONE HOUR EARLY, I.E. 1600Z, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DURING PERIOD WHEN CURFEW IN EFFECT. SAMUELS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977FREETO00390
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770037-0040
Format: TEL
From: FREETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770282/aaaacump.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5f736dcd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 FREETOWN 374, 77 FREETOWN 364
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3434203
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOSL DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY LONDON FOR SEITZ
TAGS: PORS, PINT, SL
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5f736dcd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009